

April 18

Luke 16:19-31

**“Abraham’s Bosom
vs. Hell & Torments”**



19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, **21** And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. **24** And he cried and said,

Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. ²⁵ But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. ²⁶ And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. ²⁷ Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him

to my father's house: ²⁸ For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. ²⁹ Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. ³⁰ And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. ³¹ And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Questions For Thought and

Discussion:

© Was the beggar's body ever buried?

Does burial, itself, have any relevance concerning one's eternity?

© Does that permanent "gulf" dividing "Abraham's bosom" and that "place of torment" allow sight but not

travel between the two destinations?

◎ Is “Abraham’s bosom” in existence after the resurrection of Christ?

◎ It’s at least fairly reasonable (within the context of Scripture) that the rich man’s selfishness in his

extravagance made
him worthy of the
unpleasant locale.
However, what entitled
the beggar to a pleasant
after-life? Surely
extreme poverty is
not a criterion for
placement in the
good place.

© Was this *good place*
versus *bad place* story

just that— a story or
parable but not a
re-telling of an
actual account?

◎ What message was
Christ conveying
in relaying this account?

◎ What should the
Believer come away with
from having read/heard
this information?